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SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Bromm a question or two.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator, would you respond?

SENATOR BROMM: Yes, I would.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bromm, I haven't had a chance to really review this bill, so my questions are going to be general. Are we dealing with a situation where the state may set lower or less stringent standards than the federal government in this area?

SENATOR BROMM: No, Senator Chambers, the federal government gives us a range within which we can set our regulations or exemptions. And if we take advantage of that opportunity, then...but they have to be within that range, we cannot adopt a lower standard than they allow.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That I understand. But, are you suggesting that Nebraska should do this to avoid preemption, because, if preemption occurs, the federal standard that is actually put in place would be more rigorous than the one the state would likely put in place?

SENATOR BROMM: I believe that to be true, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If there were a less rigorous standard put in place by the state, would there be any possible harm or disadvantage to the public that could result from that?

SENATOR BROMM: With what we are dealing with, in terms of the regulations in this bill, I don't believe so. I think that the track record that the state has had in regulating this area, as I mentioned the safety factors over the past seven or eight years have been just absolutely excellent in comparison to the national level. And so I don't feel there is a risk in what we're doing here in that regard.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Bromm. I don't want to tie in all kinds of issues, so I don't want this to overlap and